



U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects
1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100147

Date Received: 2004 APR -1 11:11 AM
26-FEB-2004
Repository
Reference No. 10058868

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: TUSCALOOSA State: AL Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Daytime Telephone Number: [REDACTED] E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Evening Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you authorize NHTSA to send the results of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? YES NO
In the absence of an authorized signature, provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.
Signature of Owner: [REDACTED] Date: 3/16/2004

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side: 3GKEC15T61G167758
Make: GMC Model: YUKON XL Model Year: 2001
Date Purchased: 11/29/2000 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number: ROYAL AUTOMOTIVE, INC. 205-823-3100 Engine: 5.3 L No. Cylinders: 8 Fuel Type: REGULAR UNLEADED
Original Owner: Dealer's City: VESTAVIA State: AL Zip Code: 35216
Transmission Type: AUTO Antilock Brakes Cruise Control Powertrain: 3.73 Vehicle Component Code: 072100 FUEL SYSTEM, GASOLINE: DELIVERY: FUEL PUMP Multiple Failure: 5

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s): 24-FEB-2004 Failure Mileage: 54,000 Failure Speed: N/A

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make: [REDACTED] Tire Model (Name or Number): [REDACTED] Tire Size (Example P215/65R15): [REDACTED]
DOT No. (Example: DOTM18ABC038): [REDACTED] Original Equipment Prior Repair Failure Location: [REDACTED]
Tire Component Code: [REDACTED] Tire Failure Type: [REDACTED]

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make: [REDACTED] Date Manufactured: [REDACTED] Model No./Name: [REDACTED]
Seat Type: [REDACTED] Installation System: [REDACTED]
Child Seat Component Code: [REDACTED] Failed Part: [REDACTED]

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash: Yes No Fire: Yes No
Number of Persons Injured: [REDACTED] Number of Deaths: [REDACTED] Reported to Police: N

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).
Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e. parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

WHEN DRIVING ENGINE CHECK LIGHT APPEARED ON THE DASHBOARD. CONSUMER PULLED THE VEHICLE OVER AND PARKED THE VEHICLE ON A SLIGHT INCLINE, AND SMELLED A GAS ODOR. CONSUMER GOT OUT OF THE VEHICLE TO INVESTIGATE THE SMELL, AND NOTICED FUEL LEAKING FROM THE FUEL TANK. CONSUMER DROVE THE VEHICLE TO THE DEALERSHIP FOR INSPECTION, AND MECHANIC DETERMINED THAT THE FUEL PUMP WIRING FAILED, CAUSING THE FUEL TO LEAK FROM THE FUEL TANK. *AK

SEE ADDENDUM

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY.

The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579) This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Addendum to Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire, Reference No. 10059869

Shortly after returning from a 2,200 mile trip over 9 days, the "Service Engine Soon" light appeared on the instrument panel. I had the trouble code pulled with a scan tool, and the code was P0442 (Small leak in the evaporative fuel system). At that point, the gas cap was checked to ensure that it was closed properly, and the hoses leading to the evaporative canister were checked. After a few days, the light appeared again. The SUV was running normally, although I did notice gas fumes when I filled the tank, but I didn't see any gas leaking. After a subsequent fill-up, I happened to park the vehicle on an incline with the driver's side of the vehicle lower than the passenger's. When returning to the vehicle after approximately 10 minutes, I noticed gas leaking from the vehicle at an estimated rate of a quart per 5 minutes. The gas appeared to be coming from the top of the tank.

I immediately called and scheduled an appointment with the GMC dealer where I purchased the vehicle. I delivered the vehicle to the dealer, and at that point, the mileage on the vehicle was 54,435. The mechanic removed the tank and found that the fuel was leaking around the connector which houses the wires from the fuel pump and the fuel level sensor. Both of the fuel pump wires at the connector had insulation melted away, and the heat had apparently melted the connector seal so that gas was leaking. Photos are attached that show the connector that was leaking (A), and the black fuel pump wire (B) with approximately an inch of bare wire exposed, and the gray fuel pump wire (C) with approximately one-half inch of bare wire exposed. The label on top of the fuel sender unit is TDC with a bar code followed by 3104-15, 2870-5F, and 09:42. The unit was replaced with a new part. I have attached a copy of the repair invoice.

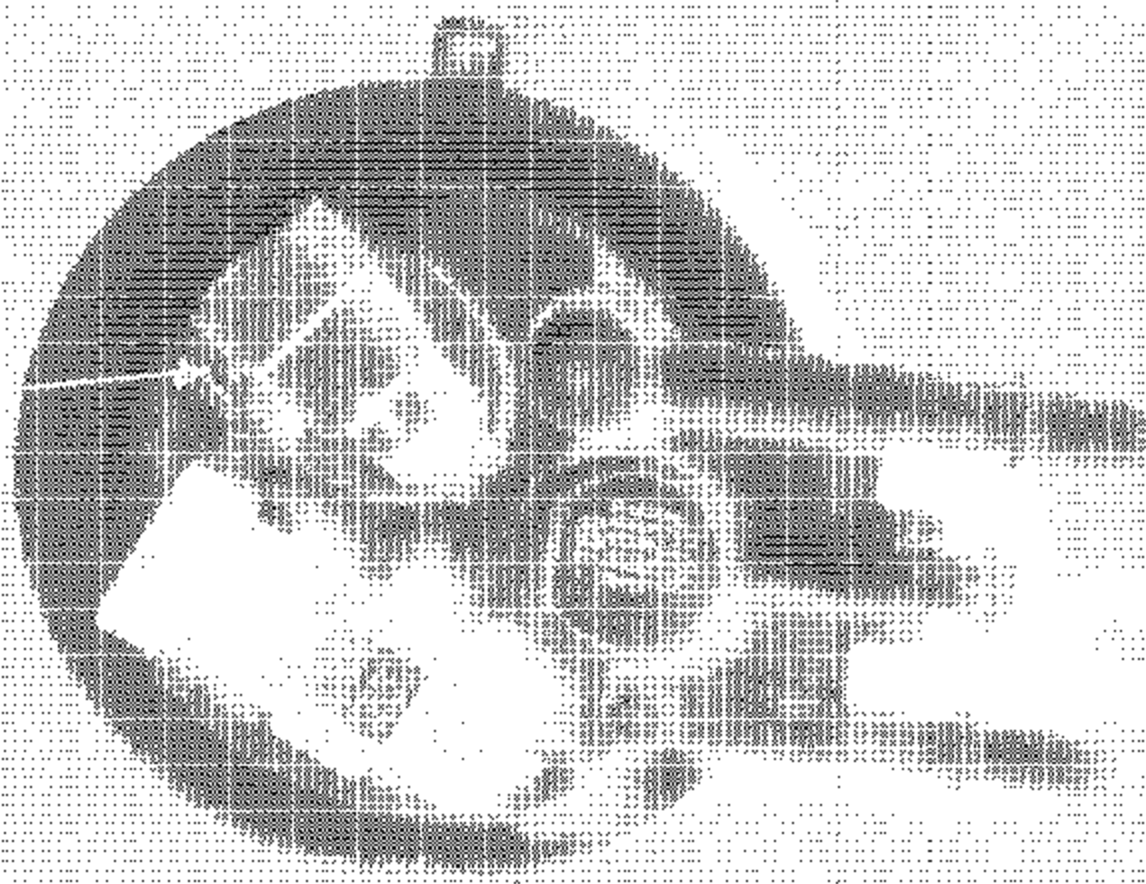
I see two serious safety hazards due to this failure:

1. A possible explosion due to the bare wires in the tank. The wires from the fuel level sensor were touching the fuel pump wires, and there were some signs of the insulation melting on those wires from the contact. I moved the wires so that the photo would capture the two bare wires.
2. A possible fire from fuel leaking from the full tank if on an incline, and sparks or heat from the exhaust system coming in contact with the fuel.

Signed _____

Date 3/16/2008

(A)



(B)



(C)

**THE ATTACHMENTS TO THIS
DOCUMENT HAVE BEEN REMOVED
TO PROTECT UNWARRANTED
INVASION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY
PURSUANT TO EXEMPTION 6 OF
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).**